

The American Bladesmith Society is a non-profit educational organization that both sponsors and endorses Hammer-ins in the United States, and other countries, each year.

A Hammer-in is a seminar dedicated to all things dealing with the forged blade. An ABS Hammer-in is a two to three day event where anybody interested in the forged blade can attend demonstrations and talks on a number of bladesmithing topics, from basic to advanced. Anybody can sign-up to attend and get invaluable information from professional bladesmiths that are the tops in their field.

A Hammer-in is a great starting point for anybody wanting to learn the craft, but may not be ready for a full ABS Bladesmithing Course.



AmericanBladesmith.org

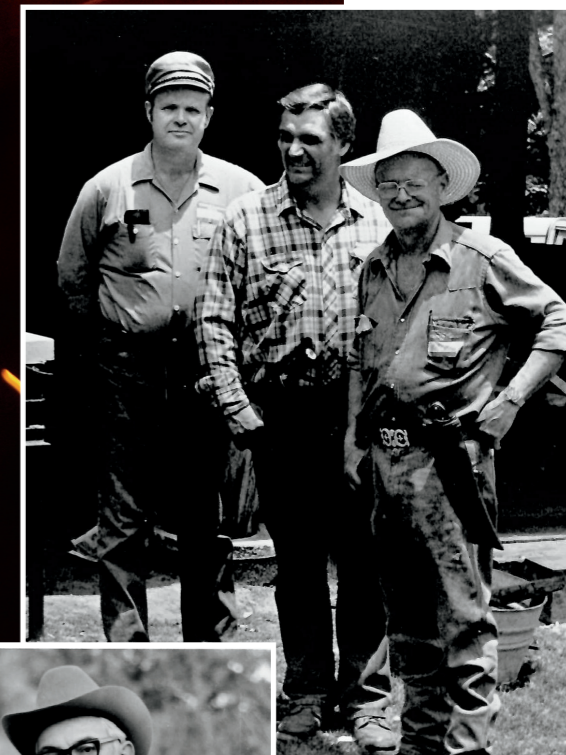
AMERICAN BLADESMITH SOCIETY GREAT AMERICAN HAMMER-IN



The American Bladesmith Society, Inc. (ABS) was incorporated as a non-profit corporation to operate for educational, scientific, and charitable purposes. The ABS was formed primarily to encourage and promote activities involving the art and science of forging metal, particularly tools, weapons and art forms. The objectives of the educational programs of the ABS are to inform and educate knife makers and the public about the art, science, technology, history and culture relating to forged edged tools, weapons and artifacts and the proper care and use of these objects.

The American Bladesmith Society owes a tremendous debt of gratitude to the late W. F. "Bill" Moran. Without Bill there would be no ABS, no School of Bladesmithing, no ABS Hall of Fame and Museum, and in all probability, the art of the forged blade would not be alive today.

Bill Moran, who died in Frederick, MD, February 12, 2006, was a staunch believer that the ABS Board should not be composed only of bladesmiths, although only a mastersmith may serve as Chairman of the Board and president. Moran felt strongly that the board should include businessmen, historians, journalists, and the like, as well as smiths, to provide a sense of balance. The history of the ABS has proven that Moran, as usual, was right. The sole purpose of the Society today is the same as it was in 1976 — to promote and preserve the art of the forged blade, and the path chosen to accomplish that goal is one of education. It is the mission of the ABS to teach smiths how to turn out completed knives that due to their quality and artistry will be marketable to the public. Teaching is the role of the ABS.



The original Board of Directors for the American Bladesmith Society were: Don Hastings, Bill Bagwell, William F. Moran, Jr. (top photo, left to right) and B.R. Hughes (photo left).

To learn more about the history of the ABS, visit our website: AmericanBladesmith.org